GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2940
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2016
India-Iran Relations
Sreeramulu Shri B.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the India-Iran bilateral relations has been helping us to deal with terrorism;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether India and Iran have signed some MoUs with regard to sharing information about terrorism and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has achieved/gained considerable ground by engaging with Iran recently and effectively; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) to (e) During the recent visit of Prime Minister to Iran on 22-23 May 2016, Prime Minister and President Rouhani of Iran noted with deep concern that terrorism and ideologies of violent extremism continue to infest and ingress the region posing a grave threat to peace, security, stability and development. They stressed the need to completely eradicate all forms of terrorism, and defeat the forces of extremism. They urged an immediate end to all support and sanctuaries enjoyed by terrorist groups and individuals and were of the view that States that aid, abet and directly or indirectly support terrorism should be condemned. They called upon all States to have zero tolerance towards terrorism, explicitly reject and stop the use of terrorism against other countries, dismantle terrorism infrastructure where it exists, end forthwith all support and financing to terrorists using their territories to harm other countries and ensure that all perpetrators of terrorism who are in their jurisdiction are brought to justice.

The two sides reiterated their resolve to strengthen the international consensus and legal regimes against terrorism, including effective cooperation among the states in resolving the outstanding issues related the draft Comprehensive Convention against International Terrorism conducive to its finalization. Government also supported the initiative, taken by Islamic Republic of Iran in the United Nation General Assembly in 2013, titled World against violence and extremism (WAVE).

There is no specific MoU between India and Iran on information exchange related to terrorism. However, there is growing interaction between the National Security Councils of the countries since 2002. National Security Advisor visited Iran in February 2015 to discuss ways of enhancing cooperation between the two countries regarding security and related matters.

During the visit of Prime Minister in May 2016, it was agreed to enhance regular and institutionalised consultations between the National Security Council of India and Supreme National Security Council (SNSC) of Iran and others concerned on terrorism, security and related issues such as organised crime, money-laundering, narcotics trade and cyber crime.